

Nez Perce National Forest
1005 Highway 13
Grangeville, ID 83530
208-983-1950

Clearwater National Forest
12730 Highway 12
Orofino, ID
208-476-8200

NEWS RELEASE – FIRE UPDATE

CONTACT: Laura Smith
DATE: September 2, 2006
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEZ PERCE NATIONAL FOREST

Salmon River Ranger District – The Heaven's Gate Complex has increased to a total of 20,500 acres. It is 50% contained with full containment projected for September 6.

The complex consists of four fires: the 16,810-acre Black Butte Fire, located in the Gospel-Hump Wilderness; the 3,625-acre Green Acres Fire located on the Nez Perce National Forest and Hells Canyon National Recreation Area; the 55-acre Horse Heaven Fire in Hells Canyon; and the 10-acre McCrea Fire on the Nez Perce National Forest.

There are 216 personnel assigned to the fire. They are supported by six fire engines, four water tenders and three bulldozers.

Additional burnout operations will be conducted today on the western flank of the Black Butte Fire. Fire crews will also complete mop-up operations at McMeekin Ranch and rehabilitate the fire line along the Wind River Trail.

Seven Devils Road No. 517 and Seven Devils Campground have been reopened; however, trails from the campground north remain closed. The area to the south is open, but very smoky conditions prevail.

Additional information regarding the fire complex and related closures are available at:

Nez Perce National Forest – <http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/nezperce/gvc>

Heavens Gate Complex – <http://fs.fed.us/r1/fire/incident/teams/stanich>

inciWeb Incident Information – <http://www.inciweb.org>

Please contact Information Officer Kimberly Nelson at (208)628-3589 for further information regarding the Heavens Gate Fire Complex.

No new fires were reported on the Nez Perce National Forest's Clearwater, Salmon River, Red River or Moose Creek Ranger Districts.

CLEARWATER NATIONAL FOREST

No new fires were reported on the Clearwater National Forest's North Fork or Palouse Ranger Districts.

The Kooskia-based Lochsa Ranger District reported two new fires as did the Powell Ranger District.

The largest of the new fires is the ten-acre Crab Fire located approximately eight miles east of Powell. Smokejumpers were assigned to the fire yesterday. Their numbers are being bolstered this morning and a helicopter is supporting the firefighting operation.

A number of fire-related closures associated with wildland fire use fires (allowed to burn for their resource benefits) and recent prescribed fires remain in effect. For a complete listing go the Clearwater National Forest's website:

http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/clearwater/VisitorInfo/Assets/travel_info.

OTHER AGENCIES

Craig Mountain (IDL) reported one new fire. No new fires were reported by Maggie Creek (IDL), CPTPA or BLM.

#